

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 237767

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ORIGIN HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-05 NEA-10 ABF-01 FSE-00 /023 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BPHY, OSCI, TBIO, EG

SUBJ: DHEW/PHS/SFCP PROJECT 03-332-C INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON SCHISTOSOMIASIS

REF: STATE A-5657; CAIRO 9581; CAIRO 9725; STATE 233975

HEW PROVIDES FOLLOWING FURTHER DETAILED COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO
CAIRO 9725

1. ONR AND DHEW FULLY AWARE THEY SUPPORTING SAME CONFERENCE AND
HAVE BEEN WORKING TOGETHER FOR SOME TIME ON A SUITABLE JOINT
FUNDING ARRANGEMENT. THE TOTAL COST ESTIMATE FOR THE CONFERENCE
WAS APPROXIMATELY DOLS 190,000 EQUIVALENT. THE ONR CONTRACT IS
FOR DOLS 123,995. THE DHEW AGREEMENT IS FOR THE BALANCE AND IS
SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ONR MONEY. THIS IS STATED IN SECTION I,
PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE DHEW AGREEMENT. THE DHEW AGREEMENT ALSO
PROVIDES THAT ANY UNEXPENDED BALANCE AT THE TERMINATION OF THE
AGREEMENT WILL BE RETURNED TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, THIS FEATURE
IS APPLICABLE TO THE DHEW AGREEMENT BECAUSE THE PHS SPECIAL
FOREIGN CURRENCY APPROPRIATION ISHA NO-YEAR ACCOUNT WHICH NOT
ONLY PERMITS MULTI-YEAR FUNDING BUT RECOVERY OF FUNDS. ONR
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PAGE 02 STATE 237767

CANNOT RECOVER UNUSED MONEY.

2. BOTH DHEW AND ONR SURPRISED THAT MOH AND NAMRU "UNAWARE" OF DHEW AGREEMENT UNTIL NOW. THE U.S. FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM DHEW, WERE DISCUSSED AT THE PLANNING SESSION THIS SUMMER. ADDITIONALLY, LETTERS DATED JULY 10 TO DR. MOBARAK, MOH, AND AUGUST 7 AND 29 TO DR. ABDALLAH FROM DR. ARTHUR EMORY ALL REFERENCE THE DHEW AGREEMENT. THE AUGUST 29 LETTER STATES "INCIDENTALLY, THE AGREEMENT FOR THE MONEY TO BE PUT INTO THIS CONFERENCE BY DHEW IS ON ITS WAY TO EGYPT." EVIDENTLY THESE LETTERS DID NOT REACH THEIR DESTINATION, WERE NOT UNDERSTOOD, OR THE INFORMATION DID NOT GET PASSED TO ALL CONCERNED PARTIES. IN ANY EVENT, WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S EXPLAINING THE INTENT OF THE DHEW AGREEMENT TO THE APPROPRIATE EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS. PLEASE ADVISE IF THERE ARE FURTHER QUESTIONS OR THE MONEY IS NOT NEEDED.

3. THE DHEW AUTHORIZATION TO PAY 27,780 L.E. IS FOR ITEM 1 OF THE BUDGET - "TRANSPORTATION OF CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS IN EGYPT; CONFERENCE FACILITIES; SUPPLIES AND RELATED SERVICES; AND OTHER NECESSARY DIRECT COSTS." BY INTENT THIS IS VERY BROAD SO THAT ANY LEGITIMATE DIRECT COSTS NOT COVERED BY FUNDS UNDER THE ONR CONTRACT WOULD BE COVERED BY FUNDS FROM THE HEW. HEW CANNOT AUTHORIZE EMBASSY'S WITHHOLDING THE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL PORTION OF NAVY CONTRACT FROM THE DHEW PAYMENT. THIS WOULD CAUSE PROBLEMS OF FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY BECAUSE SOME TICKETS HAVE ALREADY BEEN PURCHASED USING ONR'S ACCOUNTING DATA FOR THAT CONTRACT. HEW UNDERSTANDS ONR AUTHORIZED AN ADDITIONAL PAYMENT ON THEIR CONTRACT ON OCTOBER 1 AND SUGGESTS THAT THE MONEY FOR TWA BE WITHHELD FROM THAT PAYMENT. PLEASE ADVISE IF FURTHER CLARIFICATION NEEDED. KISSINGER

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